

THE CREATION MYTH

INTRODUCTION

In this web quest, you will explore creation myths from a different culture. From the beginning of time people have asked, "How did we get here? Where did everything come from?" A culture's creation myth is their attempt to answer questions like those. As you read the myths think about how these people lived and about how we believe the world got started.

TASK

By now, you should be in your assigned group. Each group will be assigned a culture. Use the following links to find and read the myth. Read the creation myth for your culture. Once you get to the page online, you may have to scroll up or down to find your group's creation myth.

RESOURCES

CULTURE	MYTH
BLACKFEET – NATIVE AMERICANS	Old Man and the Beginning of the World
CHINESE	Pan Gu Makes the World
CELTIC	Celtic Creation Myth (Click on the Mythology link to the left of the page. Read the introduction, then skip down to the section called <i>The Mythological Cycles</i>)
GREEK	Greek Creation Myth
INDIA	Morgana's Observatory some difficult words but a good story.
BABYLONIAN	Babylonian Creation Myth
AFRICAN BUSHMEN	African Bushmen Creation Myth
FILIPINO	The Creation Story (The Tagalog myth)
NORSE	Norse Creation Myth
EGYPT	Egyptian Creation Myths

If you have trouble with any outdated links, try www.google.com and type in "_____ creation myths" (with the quotation marks) putting the name of your assigned culture in the blank.

PROCESS

The teacher will give you a plot diagram and a creation circles worksheet.

On these sheets, in the appropriate places, write what exists at the beginning of the creation myth. Include characters, gods, and creatures.

What is the setting at the beginning and who is there?

What is the central conflict?

What are the events, actions, or characters that cause the changes?

Sum up the rising action.

What is the turning point?

What are the results of the changes?

EVALUATION

The evaluation for this project will depend on how successfully you were able to work together as a group and complete the plot diagram and creation circle.

Did you have difficulty identifying specific parts of the myth? Which parts were hard and why? Which were easy? Why?

As a group, did you work together well? Give two examples of how you worked well together. Give two examples of how you might work better together next time.

How did this myth represent the culture it was from?

CONCLUSION

Keep all of your work from this activity. With this and what you learn about the monster, trickster, and hero myths from your group's culture, you will create a presentation for the class at the end of this unit. Until you work on this again, though, put these completed sheets into your classroom folder, or, if you have them, into your Web Quest group folder.